

MASHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
1962.

District Council Offices,
MASHAM.

H. DIGGLES,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

MASHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

North Riding of Yorkshire.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

The Chairman (Councillor H.H. Hardy)
The Vice-Chairman (Councillor W.Hill)
and all the members of the Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Medical Officer of Health.

Dr. H.Diggles, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Area Health Offices,

The Wensleydale Secondary Modern School,
LEYBURN, Yorks.

Telephone: Leyburn 2125.

Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

J.A. Slack, M.R.S.H., (to 27.10.1962)

Area Health Office,

LEYBURN.

1963.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE MASHAM
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1962.

In 1962 the state of public health in Masham was very satisfactory. There were no maternal deaths, stillbirths, infant deaths or deaths from tuberculosis.

Good progress was maintained with the provision of adequate sewerage and sewage disposal schemes in the District. The sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for the village of Fearby was completed.

Further works to improve the water supplies to the area were undertaken. A scheme to supply the Swinton area with a mains supply to replace the existing unsatisfactory arrangements was completed, and a new reservoir of 90,000 gallons capacity to augment the supplies to Masham was commenced.

The erection of an additional 4 houses and 4 old people's bungalows was completed. These helped the housing position in Masham and enabled some progress to be made in dealing with the unfit houses.

In conclusion, I should like to express my appreciation to the Members and Officials of the Council for the help and support I have received from them during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. DIGGLES,

Medical Officer of Health.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29793762>

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

(a) GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	25,995.
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate of Resident Population mid-year 1962)	1,580.
Net decrease of Resident Population (mid- year 1962)	6.
Population (1931 Census)	2,024.
Population (1951 Census)	1,738.
Number of Inhabited houses. 1962	580.
Rateable Value (at 1st April 1962)	£39,378.
Product of a penny rate (1st April 1962)	£157,712.

(b) VITAL STATISTICS.

Live births	22
Rate per 1,000 population	13.9
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births.	4.5
Stillbirths.	0
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	0
Total Live and Still Births	22
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	0
Infant Mortality Rates.	
Total Infant deaths per 1,000 live births	0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	0
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	0
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per total live births)	0
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	0
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)	
Number of deaths	0
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	0

CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATH.

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total.
Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	-	-
Malignant Diseases	1	-	1
Diabete:	-	-	-
Cardio-Vascular Diseases	3	1	4
Coronary Disease, Angina.	7.	-	7
Other Heart Diseases.	2	2	4
Bronchitis.	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate.	-	-	-
Other Diseases.	-	1	1
Suicide.	-	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-
Total Deaths (all causes)	13	5	18

POPULATION TREND.

	1962.	1961.	1960.	1959.	1958.	1957.	1956.
Estimated mid-year popn.	1580	1586	1620	1620	1620	1630	1640
Birth Rate.	13.9	17.2	11.0	13.5	14.8	12.9	13.4
Death Rate.	11.3	15.8	12.3	11.7	14.2	16.7	15.9

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

It was not necessary to take action under Section 47 of the above Act which deals with the compulsory removal to a place of safety of persons in need of care and attention.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities.

Laboratory facilities are provided at the Public Health Laboratory, Friarage Hospital, Northallerton.

Ambulance Facilities.

The North Riding of Yorkshire County Council supply ambulance services from their station at Thirsk.

Hospital Services.

Local Hospital accommodation is provided by the Northallerton Management Committee of the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board. In addition, a number of residents receive both in-patient and out-patient treatment at hospitals under the control of the Ripon and Harrogate Management Committee of the Leeds Regional Hospital Board.

Nursing in the Home.

The Home Nursing and Domiciliary Midwifery services are under the general direction of the County Council with the day-to-day administration dealt with by the Wensleydale Area Local Health Sub-Committee through the District Medical Officer. One district nurse/midwife operates in the area.

Domestic Health Service.

This service is under the general direction of the County Council with the day-to-day administration dealt with by the Wensleydale Area Local Health Sub-Committee.

SECTION C.

Water Supplies.

Details are to be found in the Public Health Officer's Section.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Details are to be found in the Public Health Officer's Section.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Details are to be found in the Public Health Officer's Section.

SECTION D.

Housing.

Details are to be found in the Public Health Officer's Section.

SECTION E.

Meat and Other Foods.

Details are to be found in the Public Health Officer's Section.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There were no infectious diseases notified during the year.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The following figures indicate the immunisation state of the child population in the Wensleydale Local Health Area, of which the Masham Rural District is a part.

<u>Age Group.</u>	<u>Immunised.</u>
0 - 4	49%
5 - 15	52%

Although it is pleasing to see that a considerable number of children have received a booster dose against diphtheria before starting school it is distressing to find that a number of parents will not allow their children to be immunised at this age. Most of these children were never protected against diphtheria in infancy. Several outbreaks of diphtheria have recently been reported from different parts of the country. Parents should remember that although poliomyelitis has stolen the limelight in recent years diphtheria can recur at any time with all the dangers and complications that were commonplace twenty years ago.

Smallpox Vaccination.

61% of the children born in the Wensleydale Local Health Area during the year were notified as having been vaccinated against smallpox (66% in 1961).

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

By the end of the year 8,506 children aged under 15 years in the Wensleydale Local Health Area (of which the Masham Rural District is part) had been vaccinated with two injections. This figure represents some 94% of all the children under 15 years of age compared with 89% in 1961.

In addition some 3991 older persons had also received two injections and 10,764 children and adults had received a third injection.

Tuberculosis.

Masham Rural District.

New Cases.

Deaths.

	<u>Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Non-pulmonary.</u>	<u>Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Non-pulmonary.</u>
Under 1	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	-	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-
Totals.	-	-	-	-

There were three cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and no cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis on the register at the 31st December 1962. This gives a rate of 1.8 cases of tuberculosis per 1,000 population, the same as in 1961.

Council Offices,

Masham.

1963.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Mr, Chairman and Gentlemen,

In writing the report of the Public Health Inspector for 1962 I am working under the difficulty that I did not take up my office with the Council until 1st January 1963 and though I have the records of my predecessor, these can only give the bare outlines of the work carried out during the year. For this reason the report must be mainly in the nature of a statistical record with little comment.

I am sure Mr. Slack would wish me to thank the Council for their co-operation during the year and also the Clerk and the staff who assisted the work of the Department in many ways. Thanks are also due to Mr. Lewis of Wath Rural District Council who carried out essential duties during the period after October 27th until the end of the year. However, I have had no contact with Mr. Lewis, as he is no longer at Wath, and can only add on to the statistics those figures which I have been able to ascertain from other sources.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

Arthur Nunn,

Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Number of mains supplies in the district:

Owned by (a) Local Authority	3.
(b) Other Statutory Undertakings	3.

Schemes in progress during the year.

Start was made on the construction of the new reservoir (90,000 gallons capacity) at Mossra Lane, Fearby, to provide additional storage facilities and to improve distribution in Masham.

Schemes completed during the year.

The scheme to replace the private supply to Swinton village with water from the Council's mains was carried out. Two other schemes, one to repair or renew defective and obsolete fittings on the existing supply and the other to lay mains to and from the new reservoir were also completed.

Distribution of Water.

Public Supplies:	No. of houses supplied.
Masham R.D.C.	497
Other public supplies	15
Private supplies	68

Inspections.

Springs and Collection works.	74
Chlorination plant.	27
Distribution system.	70
New schemes.	162

Water sampling.

Of the 11 samples of water taken, mainly from private supplies, two were found to be unsatisfactory. One of the premises was connected to the public supply when the Swinton water scheme was completed. In the other case later samples showed the water to be satisfactory.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The scheme for sewerage Fearby Village was completed and 50 houses were connected to the public sewer.

Inspections.

Work on new schemes	80
Disposal works	36
Drains cleared	9
Other visits	25

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The refuse collection service continued under contract, covering the whole of the area with the exception of outlying farms in Colsterdale. Very few difficulties arose and only 4 visits were necessary to iron out minor problems.

The tip in Healey Quarry was operated satisfactorily. A system of crude tipping and incineration is followed, with periodical levelling to provide new tracks for the collection vehicle and to compact the material. Periodic inspections were made, and when rats were found to be present baiting was carried out. 40 visits in all were made.

HOUSING.

No. of occupied houses in the district.	580
No. of inspections made.	35
No. of houses closed.	-
No. of houses demolished.	-

Defects found were remedied informally.

Improvement Grants.

No. of visits of inspection and interviews	48
No. of Grants approved:	
Standard	6
Discretionary	9
No. of houses improved with Grant Aid:	
Standard	6
Discretionary	2

Council Housing.

All houses and bungalows under erection were completed. The Council now owns

4	Four-bedroom houses
58	Three-bedroom houses
10	Two-bedroom bungalows.

Plans for the erection of a further 8 two-bedroom bungalows and 3 one-bedroom bungalows were being prepared.

22 visits were made to Council dwellings in course of erection and 77 to existing houses for maintenance inspections.

BUILDING BYELAWS.

No. of plans submitted to and approved by the Council	32
No. of visits to works in progress (private works)	45

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There is only one slaughterhouse operative in the district and this was made to comply with the current regulations during the year. 8 visits were made in addition to the routine meat inspection calls.

The following animals were inspected during the year:

Bullocks and Heifers	72
Pigs	71
Sheep	202

Tuberculosis and Cysticercus bovis.

There were no cases of either during the year.

Meat Condemned.

48 lbs of Liver were condemned for liver fluke.

Food Premises.

12 visits were made to various food premises in the district. Minor defects were corrected without formal notice.

Other Food Condemned.

11 lbs tinned meat.

RODENT AND INSECT INFESTATION.

Free services are available for domestic infestations and advice is offered to others dealing with farm and business property infestations.

A total of 24 visits were made in respect of rodent infestations.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

No. of licensed sites for permanent occupation 2
(of which only one is in use)

In addition there is in the summer a certain amount of week-end caravanning and camping. Three visits were made.

CLEAN AIR ACT.

There are three industrial furnaces in the district, and while no lengthy observations were made, watch was kept on the amount of smoke produced. On no occasion was anything seen which warranted action.

NUISANCES.

Inspections 10

All conditions found were remedied informally.

OTHER VISITS.

Planning Acts.	3
Factories	4
Petroleum Regulations	13
Council Property (other than houses)	6
Miscellaneous	40

